

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 5, 16, 19, and 20.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A physiologically acceptable aqueous solution that comprises recombinant granulocyte macrophage colony-stimulating factor, wherein said solution further comprises from 0.1 mM to 50 mM EDTA.

2. (Original) The aqueous solution of claim 1, wherein the concentration of EDTA is 0.1 to 5mM.

3. (Original) The aqueous solution of claim 1, wherein the recombinant granulocyte macrophage colony-stimulating factor is sargramostim.

4. (Original) The aqueous solution of claim 3, wherein the EDTA concentration is 5 mM, and wherein the solution has a pH of 7.4 and further comprises 10 mM TRIS-HCL, 40 mg/ml mannitol, 10 mg/ml sucrose.

5. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing a stablized, physiologically acceptable, aqueous solution of granulocyte macrophage colony-stimulating factor, which comprises adding EDTA at a concentration of 0.1 to 50 mM to a solution comprising 500 µg/ml granulocyte macrophage colony-stimulating factor, 10 mM TRIS-HCL, 40 mg/ml mannitol and 10 mg/ml sucrose.

6. (Original) The process of claim 5, wherein the EDTA is added at a concentration of 5 mM.

7. (Original) The process of claim 5, wherein the recombinant granulocyte macrophage colony-stimulating factor is sargramostim.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Previously presented) A therapeutic method comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of an aqueous solution of granulocyte macrophage colony-stimulating factor according to claim 3.

10. (Previously presented) A method for treating inflammatory bowel disease comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of the aqueous solution of claim 1.

11. (Previously presented) A method for treating inflammatory bowel disease of claim 10 wherein the recombinant granulocyte macrophage colony-stimulating factor is sargramostim.

12. (Previously presented) A method for treating inflammatory bowel disease of claim 10 wherein the inflammatory bowel disease is Crohn's disease.

13. (Previously presented) A method for treating inflammatory bowel disease of claim 12 wherein the recombinant granulocyte macrophage colony-stimulating factor is sargramostim.

14. (Withdrawn) A method for treating ulcers comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of the aqueous solution of claim 1.

15. (Withdrawn) A method for treating ulcers of claim 14 wherein the recombinant granulocyte macrophage colony-stimulating factor is sargramostim.

16. (Currently amended) A lyophilized formulation of recombinant granulocyte macrophage colony-stimulating factor, wherein the formulation, when hydrated, produces a physiologically acceptable aqueous solution that comprises a therapeutically effective amount of a recombinant granulocyte macrophage colony-stimulating factor and EDTA in a concentration of about 0.1 mM to about 50 mM.

17. (Previously presented) The formulation of claim 16 wherein EDTA is present in a concentration of about 0.1 mM to about 5.0 mM.

18. (Previously presented) The formulation of claim 16 wherein the recombinant granulocyte macrophage colony-stimulating factor is sargramostim.

19. (Currently amended) The formulation of claim 16 wherein the aqueous solution comprises a therapeutically effective amount of sargramostim, EDTA in a concentration of about 0.1 mM to about 5.0 mM, 40 mg/ml mannitol, 10 mg/ml sucrose; and 1.2 mg/ml TRIS-HCL.

20. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing a lyophilized formulation of recombinant granulocyte colony-stimulating factor, which comprises:

a) adding EDTA at a concentration of about 0.1 mM to about 50 mM to an physiologically acceptable aqueous solution comprising 500 µg/ml recombinant granulocyte

macrophage colony-stimulating factor, 10 mM TRIS-HCL, 40 mg/ml mannitol and 10 mg/ml sucrose formula; and

b) lyophilizing the aqueous solution.

21. (Previously presented) The process of claim 20 wherein the recombinant granulocyte macrophage colony-stimulating factor is sargramostim.

22. (Previously presented) The process of Claim 21 wherein the EDTA is added at a concentration of about 5 mM and wherein the aqueous solution has a pH of 7.4.